

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE

DOCKET NO. 2020-2-E

ORDER NO. 2020-30-H

APRIL 6, 2020

Hearing Officer: David Butler

DOCKET DESCRIPTION:

Annual Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs for Dominion Energy South Carolina, Incorporated

MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Joint Motion to Cancel Public Hearing and Decide this Matter Without the Need for an In-Person Public Hearing ("the Joint Motion")

HEARING OFFICER ACTION:

The Motion is denied in part and granted in part. The Joint Motion to Cancel Public Hearing is denied. S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-865 (B) ("the fuel statute") requires the Public Service Commission to "conduct public hearings in accordance with law." Accordingly, cancelling the public hearing is inappropriate, and this portion of the Motion is denied. However, the portion of the joint motion which requests the Commission to "decide this matter without the need for an in-person hearing" is granted. Instead of an in-person hearing, the Commission will conduct a virtual hearing in the Commission's hearing room at the scheduled time. The procedure to be used will be as follows:

1. The Chairman opens the hearing.
2. The Commission attorney reads the Docket.
3. The Chairman will take appearances from the parties. (Attorneys for the parties may appear virtually.) (In this directive, the term "parties" indicates the attorney (s) for the parties.)
4. The parties will make any short opening statements regarding their case that they feel are appropriate.
5. The Chairman will hear from the Company's customers, if any of them are present and wish to be heard.
6. The parties and Commissioners may ask questions of any testifying Company customer, if appropriate.
7. Each party will move the verified testimony of each of his/her witness into the record as if given orally from the stand, and will ask that any exhibits from each witness be entered into the record as hearing exhibits. It will not be necessary for the parties to have their witnesses present either in-person or virtually during this process.
8. The parties may make any short closing statements, if appropriate.
9. The Chairman may assign a due date for proposed orders in the Docket and adjourn.

The parties are encouraged to contact Randy Erskine of the Commission Staff at 803-896-5100 to make sure that they are able to connect with the Commission virtually.